

**From:** [EmpowerLA](#)  
**To:** [Kent Smith](#)  
**Subject:** GM's Message plus Veterans Career Summit, ADA Celebrates 25 Years, and Online Voting  
**Date:** Friday, July 17, 2015 4:02:28 PM

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## GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE

I hope our newsletter finds you well.

We've been busy wrapping up Neighborhood Council funding and bylaw issues this week. I am happy to say though that we've started interviews to fill our vacancies so we'll be introducing some new faces to the EmpowerLA team soon. Don't forget to stop by our Neighborhood Council Town Hall next Saturday, July 25th, at the Hollywood Constituent Center (6501 Fountain Ave. 90028) from 12 pm - 4pm, where we'll be taking feedback on what works, what needs improvement and what's coming up in the Neighborhood Council system this year. If you can't make it, no worries, we'll also send out a survey next week for folks to provide feedback.

The [Board of Neighborhood Commissioners will be meeting](#) at City Hall on Monday, July 20, 2015. They'll be continuing their conversation on our [report](#) for Council President Wesson's Council Files [15-0524](#) and [15-0389](#). The Commission will also be discussing the Neighborhood Council stakeholder definition in regards to clarifying the term "substantial and ongoing" for the Community Interest Stakeholder and taking steps on consequences for Code of Conduct violations. If you haven't submitted for the Commission's [EmpowerLA Awards](#) yet, please do so asap as the deadline is August 1st!

I am really bummed to share that Deputy City Attorney Alois Phillips from our Neighborhood Council Advice Division is heading to another assignment this week. Alois supported the Neighborhood Councils in the Valley and East areas as well as helped to staff the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners meetings. We really appreciated Alois' humor and professionalism and wish her all the best!! This drops our NCAD team to only two: Managing Deputy City Attorney Darren Martinez and Deputy City Attorney Carmen Hawkins. They are supporting 96 Neighborhood Councils as well as our department and the Commission on legal matters, including contracts and leases. While Darren and Carmen are amazing, please understand that this workload is immense so there will be delays in responding to all legal questions.



I'll be stopping by the [Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates](#) first meeting and retreat tomorrow. If you haven't had a chance to take the [Budget Survey](#), please take a few minutes to share what you think the City's budget priorities should be for the Mayor's Office. Thank you!!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Best,

Grayce Liu,  
General Manager  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (aka) EmpowerLA

***Empower Yourself, Empower Your Community, EmpowerLA***



## Team Updates



**Armando Ruiz**  
**FUNDING**



**Leyla Campos**  
**FIELD**



**Stephen Box**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**



**Jeffrey Brill**  
**ADMINISTRATION**



**EmpowerLA**  
**Calendar**



**Community Impact**  
**Statements**



**Metrics**



**Policies**

## Mayor's Message

10,000 Strong Veterans Hiring Initiative Near Halfway Mark Ahead of Schedule

Today, at the 10,000 Strong Veterans Career Summit, Mayor Eric Garcetti announced that his 10,000 Strong Coalition of over 200 public and private sector partners has hired nearly 5,000 veterans in one year. He was joined by more than 1,000 veterans, employers, supporters and military family members...



**>>> read more**

## Online Voting Coming to Neighborhood Council in 2016

Do your Neighborhood Council elections have low voter turnout? Are you struggling to reach community members and engage them with the Neighborhood Council voting process?

In this day and age, we can do everything on the internet - shop, pay bills, schedule appointments, apply for jobs, transmit important documents, and engage with our local and global communities in ways we never could...

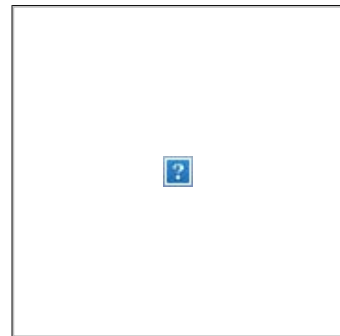


[>>> read more](#)

## Americans with Disabilities Act Celebrates 25 Years of Inclusion

The Americans with Disabilities Act, the landmark civil rights legislation that prohibits discrimination based on disability and requires accessibility accommodations in public facilities, turns 25 this year. California will celebrate this important legislation with events on Saturday and Sunday, July 25 and 26....

[>>> read more](#)



## How to Co-Exist with Coyotes



Dear Angelenos,

With increased concern over coyotes in neighborhoods, it appears that the coyotes may have simply adapted to urban living and lost the fear of people. As we continue to study this challenge, we are recommending the use of humane "hazing techniques" designed to re-instill the fear of people for the coyotes...

[>>> read more](#)

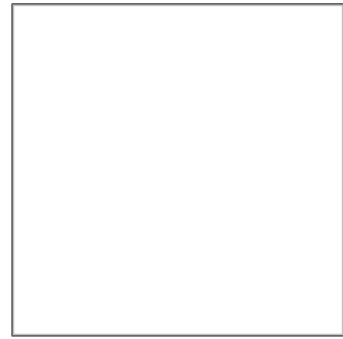
## Online Registration Now Open for the 8th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair

Online registration for the 8th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair (the largest in Los Angeles) opened on July 1, 2015. Please don't be misled by the Valley in our name-everyone is invited to attend. Mother Nature pays no attention to our boundaries. By registering online, Fairgoers who bring their printed voucher to the Express Check-In Lane



at the Fair...

[>>> read more](#)



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### Stay Connected



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